



# Genesee County Health Department

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 28, 2015 End Date: March 30, 2016  
Contact Person: Suzanne Cupal, MPH  
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Re: Winter Auto Safety

Winter is fast approaching and the Genesee County Health Department (GCHD) reminds you that it is time to winterize your vehicle. It is important to get all tire treads, brakes, windshield wipers, headlights, and radiators checked as the snow comes. In 2014, there were 35,213 crashes during snow and blowing snow. In Michigan, many (26.7%) crashes occurred at intersections. It is important to allow yourself plenty of time to make a complete stop, especially in poor weather conditions. While driving, there should always be at least a car length distance between you and another vehicle. Stay safe and avoid speeding. Twenty-one percent of fatal car accidents are due to excessive speed.

### **Auto Emergency Kit: (Items you may need if you are stranded)**

- Cell Phone & car charger
- Metal Shovel
- First Aid Kit & Medicine
- Flashlights/Emergency Flares
- Non-perishable foods (high protein)
- Jumper Cables
- Extra window washer fluid
- Paper Map (just in case GPS/satellite not working)
- Extra clothes (sweater, gloves, hats, blankets, etc.)
- Disposable Feet and Hands Heater packs
- Extra batteries (for flashlights)
- A bag of sand (use if car needs tire traction on ice)
- Bottled Water
- Pack any other special needs

“Don’t wreck your life.” Use caution this winter and always plan ahead. Remember to have an emergency kit with all the necessities such as a flashlight, extra clothes, blankets, shovel, and First Aid Kit. Driving safe is the key to survival. The Genesee County Health Department is here to support you in staying safe. Visit our website at [www.gchd.us](http://www.gchd.us) for the Winter Safety Fact Sheet. Our motto is “Better Life Through Better Health.”

### Better Life Through Better Health

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